

REMARKS

This amendment is submitted in an earnest effort to bring this case to issue without delay.

Applicant appreciates the Examiner's indication that claims 13 through 17 are directed to allowable subject matter and that the Examiner has objected to claims 13, 14, 16 and 17 under 35 USC 112 only because of some minor informalities. Claim 12 remains rejected under 35 USC 103 as obvious in view of the cited prior art.

Applicant has canceled claim 12, without replacement, though Applicant expressly reserves the right to file a related application to cover the subject matter of claim 12. Applicant expressly states that he does not believe that claim 12 is obvious under 35 USC 103 in view of the cited combination of prior art references.

Applicant has canceled claim 13 and replaced that claim with new independent claim 18. Claim 18 is directed to a method of diagnosing a colorectal carcinoma having at least one HERG potassium channel in a patient suspected of suffering from the disease, and in the event that colorectal carcinoma having at least one HERG potassium channel is diagnosed in the patient, treating the patient for the disease. Claims 14 through 17 are directed to a method of diagnosing a colorectal carcinoma having at least one HERG potassium channel in a patient suspected of suffering from the disease. None of claims 14 through 18 contains any of the

informalities to which the Examiner has objected on page 2 of the office action.

Applicants believe that claims 14 through 18 are allowable and a response to that effect is earnestly solicited.

K.F. Ross P.C.

/Jonathan Myers/

By: Jonathan Myers, 26,963
Attorney for Applicant

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5683 Riverdale Avenue Box 900
Bronx, NY 10471-0900
Cust. No.: 535
Tel: 718 884-6600
Fax: 718 601-1099
Email: email@kfrpc.com

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